[Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai.]

falls permanently vacant. Provision is made for the next year for the continuance of the Agricultural Schools at Kottarakara and Koni and for the continuance of the temporary staff engaged in carrying on intensive propaganda work in the taluks of Neyyattinkara, Mavelikara and Tiruvalla. With a view to encourage private enterprise in the matter of Agricultural education, Government have recently passed a set of rules for the award of grants-in-aid to private Agricultural schools and provision has been made therefor. Travancore with its long coast line has considerable possibilities for the development of fish industry. This industry, if properly organised, is likely to contribute substantially to the wealth of the State. Even with the primitive methods of fishing, the value of fish products exported from Travancore every year amounts to nearly Rs 40 lakhs. The department could be made to do more useful work to the public, especially to those engaged in fish industry, if an expert could be appointed with up-to-date knowledge of the principles and methods of developing the industry on scientific lines. It is therefore proposed to depute one of the Fishery Inspectors of the department to undergo an advance course of training in Fisheries in the College of Fishery attached to the University of Washington, in America. Provision has accordingly been made in the next year's budget for the grant of study leave and lodging allowances to one of the Fishery Inspectors. Provision has also been made for the continuance of the Fishery School for Arayas, Alleppey (since shifted to Karunagapalli), and for the temporary staff at Kumarakam for petrol work in the Vembanad lake. A new fish curing yard has been opened at Kakkazham and a new Veterinary dispensary is also proposed to be opened at Parur.

17. *Industries.*– With a view to widen the activities of the department so that it may be made more useful to the public, an allotment of Rs 1·66 lakhs has been provided for the next year as against the expected expenditure of Rs 1·47 lakhs in the current year, in addition to a provision of Rs ·25 of a lakh under Debt Head Advances.

Sales Depot.—The Sales Depot at Trivandrum was opened on 10th Makaram 1108 and has been functioning as a medium of advertisement for the industrial products of the State and also as an agency for their sale. A commission of 6¼ per cent. for the articles received for sale from the Government institutions and 12½ per cent. for those received from private persons is realised on all sales effected by the Depot. A sum of Rs 10,000 is provided under "Debt Head-Advances" for 1109 to serve as a working capital for the Depot. A temporary Sales Depot was opened at Ooty in Medom last, on lines similar to those of the one at Trivandrum and it has been very successful in popularising our industrial products in British India.

(i) *Dyeing and Printing.*—The plant and machinery required for this section are being got down and the work will be started soon. With a view to popularise the industry among the rural population, it is proposed to grant stipends at Rs 5 each per

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mensem for a period of 2 years to a few students undergoing a course of training in this institution.

(ii) *Rattan and Basket Making.*—This section started work in Meenam last. Rattan articles are being sold through the Sales Depot at Ooty. As there has been considerable demand for rattan articles and as the raw materials are comparatively cheap and abundant, the industry promises to thrive well. A stipend of Rs. 5 each per mensem is also proposed to be sanctioned for a period of two years to a few students undergoing a course of training.

(iii) *Embroidery.*—This section began work from Meenam and promises to thrive well, as its location in the Sales Depot facilitates the ascertainment of local tastes and catering thereto. This industry also is in its early stage and provision is made for the grant of stipends for a period of two years to a few apprentices.

(iv) *Durrie and Carpet Making.*—A Master artisan has been got down from Madras in Edavam last. The work of durrie and carpet making, it is hoped, can be commenced as soon as the looms and equipment already ordered for are received.

(v) *Lacquer work.*—This section is reported to be working satisfactorily. It is encouraging to note that a large number of orders for lacquer work articles are received through the Sales Depot at Ooty.

All these institutions are becoming increasingly popular and provision has therefore been made for their continuance during the next year.

To meet the growing demand for men with an elementary training in Electrical Engineering for the execution of several electric works that are being launched throughout the State, it is proposed to give a course of training in Electrical Engineering to the Mechanical Overseer students of the Sri Mulam Technical school, Trivandrum. Most of the apparatus and equipments required for imparting practical instruction on the subject are available in the Power House.

18. *Experimental Tannery.*—The Experimental Tannery at Karamanai was opened in the year 1100 and since then it has been working under the control of the Tanning Expert on a temporary basis. The main object of the Tannery is the development of tanning industry by carrying on research work on tanning materials available in the country and also by training men in tanning methods.

It is proposed to develop the Tannery and make it produce sufficient quantities of leather to meet the requirements of all Government departments except the Military and the Royal Stables. Government are of opinion that the institution could be run on a commercial basis and that the scope of the industry could be enlarged and the quality of products improved if more funds are provided for capital

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